# The Proceedings AT THE GUILD-HALL IN LONDON,

## On Thurſday *July* the 29th, 1680.

THe Poll having been caſt up on Munday the 26th, before Sir *Jonathan Raymond* and Sir *Simeon Lewes*, the preſent Sheriffs, and *Henry Criſpe* Eſquire Common Serjeant; together with Sir *Thomas Player* Knight, *John Ellis*, *Nicholas Delue*, *Thomas Papillon* Eſquires, and Mr. *Peter Houblon*, Mr. *Lucy Knightley*, and Mr. *Samuel Swinnock* Merchants, all eight on behalf of *Slingsby Bethel*, and *Henry Corniſh*.

Sir *William Hodſon* Kt. *Nicholas Charleton* Eſquire, *George Torkano*, and *Henry Leader* Merchants, on behalf of Mr. *Ralph Box* and Mr. *Nicholſon*, it did appear before them, that

Mr. *Slingsby Bethel* had Votes---2276.
Mr. *Henry Corniſh* had Votes-----2483.
Mr. *Ralph Box* had Votes-----1428.
Mr. *Humph. Nicholſon* had Votes--1230.

Upon which a Common-hall was Summon'd on Thurſday *July* 29, which being met, made a very numerous Aſſembly, crowding one another from Ten until half an hour paſt Twelve, at which time the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen came upon the Huſtings, and being ſate, and ſilence commanded, the Common-Sergeant thus declared the occaſion of the Meeting.

*Gentlemen,*

*MY Lord Mayor hath met you here to day, that the Sheriffs may declare to you how they have found it upon the Poll, and that they may make the ſame return to my Lord Mayor and the Court of Aldermen according to Cuſtom.*

Having ſo ſaid, and Sir *Thomas Player*, Mr. *Pilkington*, Mr. *Papillon* and others, ſtanding without the Huſtings Bar, directly oppoſite to the Lord Mayor; Mr. *Papillon* delivered into the Common-Sergeants hand the following paper with theſe words.

Mr. *Papillon.* My Lord Mayor, The Commons of *London* do make a requeſt to your Lordſhip, in reference to their own juſt vindication.

To the Right Honourable

Sir *ROBERT CLAYTON* Kt.

Lord Mayor of the City of *LONDON.*

*WE the Commons of this City now in Common-hall aſſembled, cannot but take notice how our late meeting here on this occaſion, hath by ſome of this City been miſrepreſented to His Majeſty as Tumultuous and diſorderly; and though we did not obſerve any thing of that kind, but what might commonly happen in ſuch great Aſſemblies on like occaſions, yet not knowing how far the indiſcretion of the Informers may have carried that ſcandal in prejudice of us, we hold our ſelves bound in duty to declare, (as hereby we do) That the heat that then appeared among us, was no other than the effect of emulation for His Majeſties Service, and the preſervation of our own juſt Rights; and therefore we do utterly deteſt any thought of violating our Allegiance to our Sovereign, or of doing the leaſt thing that may bear the Interpretation of an affront to His Government, or a diſaffection to His Royal Perſon.*

*We pray your Lordſhip to repreſent us as ſuch to the King, that he may be no longer deceived in that matter, nor His gracious intentions towards us be in any ſort diverted; and withal humbly to aſſure His Majeſty, that we will with one heart and one hand, to the uttermoſt peril of all that is dear to us, joyn in the defence of His Royal Perſon, and the Proteſtant Religion, againſt all Attempts and Plots to the contrary, though never ſo often repeated upon us.*

*And being deeply ſenſible it hath been the deſign of the Popiſh Party for many years, and ſtill is, for to deſtroy him and it: And that there is under God no way ſo effectual to prevent theſe their cruel and bloody purpoſes, as by His Majeſties authority in Parliament. We therefore further pray your Lordſhip, humbly to beſeech His Majeſty in our Names, That for the preſervation of His Royal Perſon and Government, and the Proteſtant Religion to us and our Poſterity, he would graciouſly pleaſe to order that this Parliament, his great Council, may aſſemble and ſit, that the moſt ſpeedy and effectual courſe may be taken, to ſearch into, and prevent thoſe grievous cruelties, deſolations, and deſtructions, which the Councils of Rome have determined, and are ſtill endeavouring to execute on this Kingdom; and as by that means we have hope we ſhall be ſecured againſt all our fears, ſo we ſhall have cauſe to thank your Lordſhip for thus repreſenting us to His Majeſty, and humbly to pray for his long Life and happy Reign over us, as becomes us who profeſs our ſelves to be His Majeſties Obedient, Loyal, and Dutiful Subjects.*

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This was aſſented to, and ſtrengthened by the unanimous ſhouts and acclamations of all the aſſembled Citizens, as generally holding up their hands in farther teſtimony of their Approbation. After which, the Lord Major and Aldermen went off the Huſtings into the Council-Chamber, leaving the two preſent Sheriffs and the Common-Serjeant behind, who then delivered himſelf again in theſe words.

*Common-Serjeant.*

*Gentlemen, at your Meeting on the 14th of* July *laſt for the choice of Sheriffs to ſerve you for the year enſuing, theſe perſons were put in nomination,* Sir William Ruſſel Kt. Slingsby Bethel, Henry Corniſh, Ralph Box, Humphrey Nicolſon; *and the Sheriffs declared the choice to fall on* Slingsby Bethell, *and* Henry Corniſh, *but there was a Poll demanded for Mr.* Ralph Box, *and* Humphrey Nicholſon, *and upon the Poll the Sheriffs do find that*

Slingsby Bethell *hath*---2076 Votes.
Henry Corniſh-----2483.
Ralph Box-----1428.
Humphrey Nicholſon--1230.

*and ſo the majority is for Mr.* Slingsby Bethell, *and Mr.* Henry Corniſh.

Whereupon the whole Hall gave a ſecond acclamation as before. Immediately after this, the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen returned again to the Huſtings, at which time the Common-Serjeant expreſſed himſelf to the Citizens as follows,

*Common-Serjeant.*

*Gentlemen,*

*I have acquainted my Lord Mayor and the Court of Aldermen, that on the 14th of* July *laſt, ſeveral perſons were put in nomination to be Sheriffs of the City of* London, *and County of* Middleſex *for the year enſuing; that there was a Poll demanded, and that upon the Poll Mr.* Slingsby Bethell, *and Mr.* Henry Corniſh *had the majority of Votes; and I am commanded by the Court to declare, That* Slingsby Bethel, *and* Henry Corniſh, *are your Sheriffs for the year enſuing: and this is your free choice.*

Upon the words *Free Choice*, there was a third acclamation, by which nothing more of general conſent and unanimity could be expreſſed.

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# THE Lord MAYOR's Speech.

*Gentlemen,*

*I Must confess I have always had this apprehension, that nothing could contribute more to the safety of His Majesties Person, and the Welfare of his people, than a right understanding between the King and His People, and more immediately between the King and this his great City. If there have been any such misrepresentations as you seem to intimate in your Petition, I call God to witness I am free from it, and I do not easily believe any body else would be guilty of such a thing; however, as to that matter, Gentlemen, I shall readily comply with your request, and inform the King truly of the fact. For the other matter, I am obliged to say so much to you, that I had the honour not long since to wait upon His Majesty, when he was pleased to declare to me and assure me, that this Parliament should sit in* November *next; and I am informed likewise, that he hath acquainted all his Judges with the same thing, for them to satisfie the Countreys in their several Circuits. If that be so, I hope your great concern for that matter might have been spared, being anticipated by His Majesties gracious intention. However, I shall not be wanting with all humility to lay the whole matter before him.*

My Lord having ended his Speech, the whole Hall returned their humble thanks to his Lordship by a fourth acclamation, not inferiour to the rest, testifying their full satisfaction in what his Lordship had declared.

*FINIS.*

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